

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Salisbury Honors 9-11's Fallen Heroes with Tenth Anniversary Memorial Service

Salisbury, NC – September 8, 2011_Chief Bob Parnell of the Salisbury Fire Department, announced today that local fire, rescue, emergency, and law enforcement personnel will pay homage to their fallen brothers and sisters during a 9-11 Tenth Anniversary Memorial Ceremony. The service will take place on Sunday, September 11. Citizens are invited to attend the morning service, which marks a decade since the 9-11 attacks on the World Trade Center and Washington, DC. The service will be held at the Salisbury-Rowan Firefighters' Memorial, located adjacent to Chestnut Hill Cemetery, 1400 South Main Street.

Chief Parnell has kindly requested that attendees assemble at the Firefighters' Memorial by 9:20 am. A designated area will be provided for wheelchair accessibility. At approximately 9:30 am, a bagpiper will offer a piper's selection and the Rowan County Honor Guard will commence with the *Presentation of Colors*. A second musical selection will be offered as the flag is raised. Immediately following, The Rowan County Rescue Squad employees will offer the *Advancement of Wreath*. Salisbury Mayor Susan Kluttz and Rowan County Commission Chairman Chad Mitchell will welcome attendees to the service. Reverend Harvey Rice, Chaplain for the Salisbury Police Department, will share the invocation. Rowan County Emergency Services Division Chief Lennie Cooper will provide remarks. Chief Parnell adds that a special recognition during the service will offer remembrance for fire and rescue personnel who have passed away during the last year.

At approximately 9:59 am, the *Ring of the Bell* service will commence. The remembrance includes the ceremonial chiming of the bell five times, in three distinct sets, signifying the "last return home." A moment of silence will follow and be observed for precisely one minute, marking the collapse of the first World Trade Center tower. The *Dedication of World Trade Center Steel* will follow with remarks by Salisbury Fire Chief Bob Parnell. The *Placement of the Wreath* service and a closing prayer by Chaplain Mike Taylor, Rowan County Sheriff's Office, will conclude the memorial service.

Mayor Susan Kluttz, speaking on behalf of the Salisbury City Council shares, "By gathering as a community of fellowship on this tenth anniversary of September 11, we are able to remember and honor the countless acts of self-sacrifice and heroism exhibited by the brave individuals who responded on that fateful day. Through their acts of quiet valor and sincere dedication to others, we are able to observe this same spirit in

the daily services provided by our local fire, police, rescue, and emergency medical service workers. Their fortitude, devotion, and genuine compassion offer a continuous testimony to the memory of those individuals who perished, to the strength of the American people, and to the steadfast resilience of our nation's spirit. I encourage our citizens and all emergency service personnel to attend this memorial service on September 11, as we uplift the memory of those who offered the ultimate sacrifice, so that others might be saved."

Chief Parnell shares that through a joint resolution approved December 18, 2001 (Public Law 107-89), Congress authorized and requested former President George W. Bush to designate September 11 of each year as "Patriot Day." The proclamation followed in 2002. Flags are to be flown at half staff in observance of the day; American flags that are posted at a stationary position are to be draped with a black sash or a black ribbon in observance. Citizens are encouraged to attend appropriate ceremonies, activities, and remembrance services to pay tribute to our nation's fallen heroes. In addition, citizens are requested to display flags at their homes at half-mast and observe a moment of silence to honor those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

Citizens are advised that beginning at 9 am, a portion of South Main Street will be blocked to traffic. The street is scheduled to reopen by approximately 10:15 am. Citizen parking for service attendees will be available on streets adjacent to the Salisbury-Rowan Firefighters' Memorial and within the Chestnut Hill Cemetery. For more information regarding the 9-11 Tenth Anniversary Memorial Service, please contact the Salisbury Fire Department at 704-638-4451 and speak with Battalion Chief Chris Kepley.

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